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15th Annual Community Arts Celebration Set For University Circle on June 12

CLEVELAND, OH (May 19, 2004) — University Circle, Cleveland's cultural hub, will radiate with exciting events for everyone on **Saturday, June 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** as part of the 15th annual **Parade the Circle Celebration**. More than 25 of University Circle's organizations will be uniting to offer dozens of hands-on activities to complement the highlight of the day, a kinetic arts parade at **noon**. This year's celebration features interactive activities and musical performances along the parade route to engage the audience as they await the rhythmic and colorful procession.

Presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) and University Circle Incorporated (UCI), this **free**, daylong event engages thousands of participants and spectators in a display of brilliant color and creative fun. The Parade, sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art, will begin at noon and proceed around Wade Oval.

15th Annual Parade

"Parade the Circle showcases the talents of regional, national and international artists, in collaboration with residents of Greater Cleveland in a celebration of the creative spirit." explains Robin VanLear, artistic director of Parade and CMA's community arts program. "Thanks to the backing of the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Parade continues to exemplify what creative heights are possible when professional artists and community members inspire and support each other."

The creations in Parade the Circle are handmade and people powered without written words, logos, motorized vehicles, or live animals. Focusing on artistic expression and creativity, the Parade features handmade masks, costumes, giant puppets and floats enlivened by dancers, stilt dancers, and music ensembles.

"The theme for this year's Parade, ***It's Not "All" Black and White***, explores the dynamics of complements and the delicate balance they provide our life."

First time Parade participants include New Life Community Center (transitional housing for homeless families) working with Outreach Coordinator and artist Debbie Apple-Presser to create a fantasy world of kings and dragons.

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A new partnership for 2004 combines the Sculpture Center with students from Max Hayes High School and Cleveland School of the Arts, who will be working with guest artist Anne Cubberly on her ensemble. Anne's work for the 2004 parade will draw from her experience reclaiming diverse cast-off materials, and like a conductor, turning them into bigger-than-life beings.

Ensembles of note for 2004 include Artist Hector Castellanos, in collaboration with the staff and families of the Cleveland Public Library, who will be creating brilliantly colored costumes, and headdresses, illuminating the Rorschach test. The Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art is creating an ensemble highlighting the museum's Gee's Bend quilt exhibition, which opens June 27. The women are creating a series of six quilt panels to be carried high above their heads. The panels will rotate, alternating between brilliant colors and black and white, as the parade progresses.

Guest artists and musicians from around the world will take part in the Parade by creating ensembles, serving as technical specialists and directing outreach programs with various community organizations throughout Cleveland. Making their first appearance at the Parade will be Karryl Barton, Khadine Cadogan, and Oliver Hospedales, who will join fellow pannists (steel drummers) from Trinidad and Tobago, Kelvin Keli Cadiz and Nkhruma Potts, who are returning for their second year. Other returning guest artists are Amy Ballestad, Mary Jo Nikolai and Mark Stafford (Minnesota), Anne Cubberly (Connecticut), Brad Harley and Rick Simon (Canada), Alison Egan (California), Jill VanOrden (Vermont) and Ronald Guy, Michael Guy-James and Murphy Winters (Trinidad and Tobago).

The opening for this year's parade explores the dualities of dawn and dusk, quiet and gaiety as elegantly clad ladies and gentlemen promenade with their strange little dogs between tall mysterious, draped figures. Suddenly the quiet turns to jubilant dancing as the draped figures open to reveal dancers in harem pants with colorful umbrellas spinning above their heads.

The 2004 Parade finale will have a metallic sparkle including giant puppets, stilt dancers and the contagious rhythms and melodies of the steel pan. PANic, the panside which will open and close this year's parade is a collaboration between the five visiting pannists from Trinidad and Tobago, Mellow Harps (Cleveland's own steel band), and some of Cleveland's finest percussionists.

Note: Public workshops to prepare for **Parade the Circle Celebration** (June 12, 2004) began at the CMA April 30, 2004 and continue right up to Parade Day. Basic workshops focus on making masks, costumes and giant puppets while special workshops teach batik and stiltdancing. Participants can create their own ensembles using papier mâché, cloth, and recycled materials. Interested representatives should call CMA's community arts office at (216) 707-2483 for more information.

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Circle Village

Parade the Circle Celebration festivities include Circle Village – a creative blend of artistic activities, dance, theater and musical performances and delectable dishes from area restaurants.

More than 25 of the Circle's cultural institutions, museums and gardens, each offers a variety of hands-on activities for people of all ages. For example, *Jumpin' Jump Ropes*, presented by HealthSpace Cleveland, allows you to string colored beads to make a distinctive-patterned jump rope. Use your new jump rope to learn the essentials of roping and add to your repertoire of summertime games.

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Strut your stuff in fine *Botanical Fashion*, courtesy of the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Using all natural materials, design your own necklace in black and white, the signature color's of this year's Parade, with splashes of red, gold and green variegated leaves.

Celebrate *The Spirit of Senenkunya* with unique activities presented by the African American Museum, Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Great Lakes Science Center. Walk on the wild side in a sub-Saharan African Village and talk to dinosaurs! Examine live animals from the Perkins Wildlife Center and an animatronic baby T-Rex dinosaur courtesy of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Create fantastic insects with the Great Lakes Science Center.

Experience how nature inspires art with *On Wings of Song* presented by the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Art and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. Participants are invited to create their own colorful hummingbird kazoo and sing along with the birds.

The Cleveland Music School Settlement and the Cleveland Orchestra encourage participants to discover the magic of music during *Musical Discovery: It's Instrumental*. Paraders are invited to toot, drum and bow on a variety of instruments under the guidance of members of the Settlement Youth Orchestras and the Cleveland Youth Orchestra.

Music and Entertainment

Entertainment featured before and after the parade will spotlight some of Cleveland's finest dance troupes, musical groups, street performers, and for the first time – a live theater performance. The perfect complement to the spirited procession and craft activities, the entertainment schedule affords visitors the opportunity to view scenes from *The American Revolution*, an award-winning play performed by Cleveland's Bad Epitaph Theatre Company, dance to the rock beat of the JiMiller Band and experience Afro-Brazilian dance with the Capoeira Gerais Group. Other musical performers include Angel Sanchez Trio (mariachi), Alexis Antes Band (folk), Moises Borges and AXE´ MUSIC BRAZIL (Latin), Councilman Kevin Conwell and Footprints (jazz), Drum Play (percussion), Earth Rhythm Drum Circle (percussion), Mellow Harps and PANic (steel drums). In addition to this array of music, several dance groups will also perform including the Senegalese National Dance Association of Ohio (African), Dance Theatre Collective (modern), SAFMOD (modern), Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theater (modern) and Inlet Dance Theater with the Cleveland School of the Arts (modern). Other entertainers include John Flower – Mad Mountain Juggler, Flower Clown, Balloon Artist and Magician, The Great Brad (magician) and Bruce Manners (juggler). Entertainment stages are located at the institutions along the Parade route.

Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy mouth-watering treats from some of the area's finest food vendors including: Celebrations by Aunt Elaine, Crepe Expectations, European Gourmet Almonds, Hot Sauce Williams, Pearl of the Orient, Pierre's Ice Cream, Quiznos Sub, Rascal House Pizza, Schtick's Vegetarian Kitchen, University Circle Arabica and Uptowne Grille.

"Each institution works for months prior to Parade the Circle Celebration to create an engaging activity for the public to enjoy," notes Terri Hamilton Brown president of UCI. "University Circle Incorporated is delighted to coordinate these activities showcasing the Circle. It's a fabulous, fun day."

To view the nonstop entertainment schedule complete with times and locations for each performance, please visit www.universitycircle.org.

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Parking and Handicapped Seating

Parking is available for $8 at these locations: the Ford/Euclid Avenue surface lot, the Ford Drive garage, the Case garage adjacent to Severance Hall on East Blvd. and other area lots and garages. The Parade route and other streets will be closed to traffic from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Handicapped seating will be available on the front lawns of The Cleveland Institute of Music (11021 East Boulevard) and The Cleveland Institute of Art (11141 East Boulevard). View www.universitycircle.org for maps and details on parking and street closings.

Note: The CMA surface lot will be closed all day. The deck will be closed to the public until 1 p.m. Space will be limited in the afternoon.

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Those interested in participating in the Parade should contact the CMA's community arts office at (216) 707-2483. For more information about CMA and its events, call **1-888-CMA-0033** or visit **www.clevelandart.org**. For questions about Circle Village, contact UCI at (216) 707-5035 or visit **www.universitycircle.org**.

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Parade the Circle Celebration is presented by the institutions of University Circle. The Parade is produced by the CMA and the Circle Village is coordinated by UCI.

The Parade is sponsored by the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Additional support for the event comes from the Ohio Arts Council, The Cleveland Coca-Cola Bottling Company, the City of Cleveland, Cleveland City Council members, Patricia J. Britt (Ward 6), Sabra Pierce Scott (Ward 8), and Kevin Conwell (Ward 9) and Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners Jimmy Dimora, Peter Lawson Jones and Tim McCormack.

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